

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A data management system for managing data by appending meta data ~~a keyword~~ for a data search to managed data, said system comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the meta data ~~keyword~~ is to be appended;

means for accepting a user's selection of a type of content from among plural types of content of the managed data;

means for displaying on a screen of a display device a group of candidates of meta data based on the user's selection of type of content, ~~candidate keywords~~, each group of candidates ~~candidate keywords~~ being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the managed data;

means for changing a display of a group of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the managed data;

means for accepting a user's selection of meta data ~~a keyword~~ to be appended to the selected managed data from the provided group of candidates of the meta data ~~candidate keywords~~; and

means for appending the selected meta data to the selected managed data by saving an association between the selected meta data and the selected managed data keyword in association with each other.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for accepting an input of a search condition used to search for the managed data; and

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the ~~keyword~~ meta data.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of the managed data includes means for accepting a selection of at least a portion of the managed data to identify sub-data, and said saving means includes means for saving the sub-data and the ~~keyword~~ meta data in association with each other.

4. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 3, wherein the managed data is moving image data, and the sub-data is frame image data which forms the moving image data.

5. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the types of content of the managed data are defined for respective events in everyday life.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 5, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of a type of content of the managed data includes means for accepting a selection of the event, and said means for changing a display of a group of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ includes means for changing the group of the candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ to be provided according to the selected event.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the managed data is data of an image, and
said system further comprises means for displaying the image associated with the selected managed data and the candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ together.

8. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the managed data is at least one of image data and audio data, and a combination thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A data management method for managing data by appending meta data ~~a keyword~~ for a data search to managed data, said method comprising the steps of:

accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the meta data keyword is to be appended;

accepting a user's selection of a type of content from among plural types of content of the managed data;

displaying on a screen of a display device a group of candidates of meta data based on the user's selection of type of content, ~~candidate keywords~~, each group of candidates ~~candidate keywords~~ being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the managed data;

changing a display of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the managed data;

accepting a user's selection of a meta data keyword to be appended to the selected managed data from the provided group of candidates of the meta data ~~candidate keywords~~; and

appending the selected meta data to the selected managed data by saving an association between the selected meta data and the selected managed data ~~keyword in association with each other.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A computer-executable program stored on a computer-readable medium, for executing a data management method for managing data by appending meta data ~~a keyword~~ for a data search to managed data, said program comprising:

code for accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the meta data keyword is to be appended;

code for accepting a user's selection of a type of content from among plural types of content of the managed data;

code for displaying on a screen of a display device a group of candidates of meta data based on the user's selection of type of content, candidate keywords, each group of candidates candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the managed data;

code for changing a display of a group of candidates of meta data candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the managed data;

code for accepting a user's selection of meta data a keyword to be appended to the selected managed data from the provided group of candidates of the meta data candidate keywords; and

code for appending the selected meta data to the selected managed data by saving an association between the selected meta data and the selected managed data keyword in association with each other.

11. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 2, further comprising means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed by said searching means.

12. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 11, further comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of data that provides contents thereof from the managed data found by the search;

means for acquiring other data associated with the selected data; and

means for providing contents of the selected data and the other acquired data.

13. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein the managed data is data of a moving image, and

wherein said providing means provides contents of the selected data and the other acquired data by displaying a series of moving images consisting of a moving image of the selected data and a moving image of the other acquired data.

14. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 11, wherein the managed data is at least one of image data and audio data, and a combination thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

accepting an input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;

searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data keyword; and
partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed in said searching step.

16. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 10, further comprising:

code for accepting an input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;

code for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data keyword; and

code for partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed by said code for searching.

17. (Currently Amended) A data management system for managing data by appending meta data a keyword for a data search to data to be managed, said system comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the types of ~~contents~~ content from among plural types of content of the data to be managed;

means for providing a screen of a display device with a group of candidates of meta data based on the user's selection of type of content, ~~candidate keywords~~, each

group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the data to be managed;

means for changing a display of a group of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the data to be managed;

means for accepting a user's selection of meta data ~~a keyword~~ from the provided group of candidates of the meta data ~~candidate keywords~~;

means for inputting the data to be managed to which the selected managed data ~~keyword~~ is appended after the user's selection of the ~~keyword~~ meta data; and

means for appending the selected meta data to the selected managed data by saving an association between the selected meta data and the selected keyword ~~the input data as managed data in association with each other.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 17, further comprising:

means for accepting input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data ~~keyword~~; and

means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed by said means for searching.

19. (Currently Amended) A data management method for managing data by appending meta data ~~a keyword~~ for a data search to data to be managed, said method comprising the steps of:

accepting a user's selection of the types of contents from among plural types of content of the data to be managed;

displaying on a screen of a display device a group of candidates of meta data based on the user's selection of type and content, ~~candidate keywords~~, each group of candidates ~~candidate keywords~~ being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the data to be managed;

changing a display of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of the content of the data to be managed;

accepting a user's selection of meta data ~~a keyword~~ from the provided group of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~;

inputting the data to be managed to which the selected meta data keyword is appended after the user's selection of the managed data keyword; and

appending the selected meta data to the selected managed data by saving an association between the selected meta data keyword and the selected input data as managed data in association with each other.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-executable program stored on a computer-readable medium, for executing a data management method for managing data

by appending meta data ~~a keyword~~ for a data search to managed data, said program comprising:

code for accepting a user's selection of the types of contents from among plural types of content of the data to be managed;

code for displaying on a screen of a display device a group of candidates of meta data based on the user's selection of type of content, ~~candidate keywords~~, each group of candidates ~~candidate keywords~~ being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the data to be managed;

code for changing a display of a group of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~ to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the data to be managed;

code for accepting a user's selection of meta data ~~a keyword~~ from the provided group of candidates of meta data ~~candidate keywords~~;

code for inputting the data to be managed to which the selected meta data keyword is appended after the user's selection of the managed data keyword; and

code for appending the selected meta dat to the selected managed data by saving an association between the selected meta data keyword and the selected input data as managed data in association with each other.

21. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 17, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of meta data ~~a keyword~~ includes means for accepting a plurality of meta data keywords, and said means for saving the selected meta

~~data keyword~~ and the input data includes means for saving the ~~meta data keywords~~ selected among the plurality of ~~meta data keywords~~ by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein said step of accepting the user's selection of ~~meta data a keyword~~ includes accepting a plurality of ~~meta data keywords~~, and said step of saving the selected ~~meta data keywords~~ and the input data includes saving the ~~meta data keywords~~ selected among the plurality of ~~meta data keywords~~ by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

23. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 20, wherein said code for accepting the user's selection of ~~meta data a keyword~~ includes code for accepting a plurality of ~~meta data keywords~~, and said code for saving the selected ~~meta data keyword~~ and the input data includes code for saving the ~~meta data keywords~~ selected among the plurality of ~~meta data keywords~~ by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.